Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1 – 13 (Cancelled).

14.   (Currently Amended) A method of measuring a blood flow rate, the method comprising:

(a) passing a guide wire through an indicator lumen in an elongate catheter body to pass a portion of the guide wire through a terminal port of the indicator lumen;

(b) passing an indicator through the indicator lumen to pass from the elongate catheter body through the terminal port and an injection port intermediate the terminal port and a proximal end of the catheter body;

(c) ~~distinguishing an amount of the indicator passing through the terminal port from an amount of the indicator passing through the injection port; and~~

~~(d)~~ calculating the blood flow rate as a function of <u>less than a total volume</u>~~the amount~~ of the indicator <u>passed</u>~~passing~~ through the <u>indicator lumen</u>~~terminal port~~.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, further comprising passing the guide wire through a reduced cross sectional area of the indicator lumen.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, further comprising passing the indicator through the indicator lumen to contact a portion of the guide wire.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, further comprising passing the guide wire through a reduced cross sectional area of the indicator lumen to increase a flow of the indicator through the injection port.

19.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein calculating the blood flow rate comprises compensating for a volume of the indicator passing through the terminal port.

20.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein the calculated blood flow rate is described by a relationship $Q = \dfrac{k(T_{b-}T_i) \cdot V(1-a)}{S}$, where Q is the calculated blood flow rate, k is a coefficient related to thermal capacity of a measured flow and the indicator, T_b is a temperature of a measured flow prior to injection of the indicator, T_i is a temperature of the indicator prior to entering the measured flow, V is a volume of the indicator, S is an area under a temperature versus time curve resulting from a mixing of the indicator, and a is a portion of the indicator passing through the terminal port, the calculated blood flow rate being a value provided by an appropriate selection of k, T_b, T_i, V, S, and a.

21.   (Withdrawn-Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein calculating the blood flow rate comprises compensating for a thermal effect of the indicator passing through the terminal port.

22.   (Withdrawn-Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein calculating the blood flow rate comprises compensating for a thermal effect of the indicator passing through the terminal port corresponding to the relationship $Q = \dfrac{k(T_b - T_i) \cdot V(1-a)}{(S_m - S_{in})}$, where Q is a blood flow rate, k is a coefficient related to thermal capacity of a measured flow and the indicator, T_b is the temperature of the measured flow prior to injection, T_i is the temperature of the indicator prior to entering the measured flow, V is the volume of the indicator, S_m is the total area under the temperature versus time curve resulting from the mixing of the indicator, S_{in} is the part of the area under the dilution curve related to a cooling thermal change of a sensor inside the catheter body and a is the portion of the indicator passing through the terminal port, the calculated blood flow rate being a value provided by an appropriate selection of k, T_b, T_i, V, S_m, S_{in} and a.

Claims 23 – 27 (Cancelled).

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, further comprising sensing the indicator intermediate the terminal port and the injection port.

29.   (Currently Amended) A method of measuring a blood flow rate, comprising:

(a) passing a guide wire through an indicator lumen in an elongate catheter body to pass a portion of the guide wire through a terminal port of the indicator lumen;

(b) passing an indicator through the indicator lumen to pass from the elongate catheter body through the terminal port and an injection port intermediate the terminal port and a proximal end of the catheter body;

(c) sensing the indicator at a location that is proximal to~~intermediate~~ the terminal port and distal to the injection port ~~along a direction of blood flow~~; and

(d) calculating the blood flow rate based on passage of the indicator through the terminal port.

30.   (Currently Amended) A method of measuring a blood flow rate, the method comprising:

(a) passing a guide wire through an indicator lumen in an elongate catheter body to pass a portion of the guide wire through a terminal port of the indicator lumen;

(b) passing an indicator through the indicator lumen to pass from the elongate catheter body through the terminal port and an injection port intermediate the terminal port and a proximal end of the catheter body; and

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(c) calculating the blood flow rate as a function of <u>less than </u>a total volume of the indicator <u>passed through the indicator lumen</u><s>and a portion of the total volume passing through the terminal port</s>.

31.   (New) The method of Claim 14, further including quantifying a first amount of the indicator passing through the terminal port, and utilizing the quantified first amount in calculating the blood flow rate.